

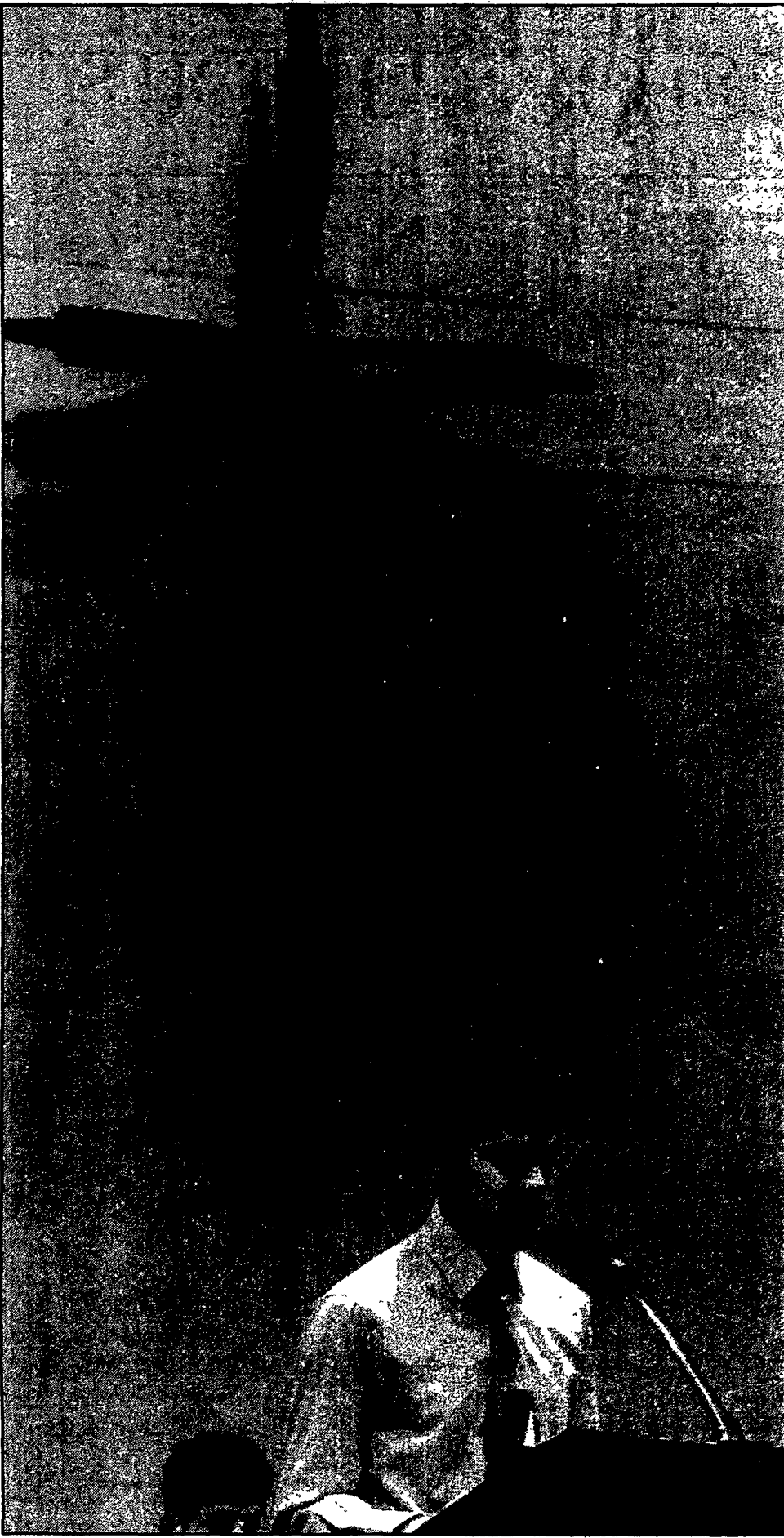
# ON THE MOW

Best Wishes for  
a Safe and Happy  
1996



St. Joseph's  
Cemetery

Auburn, NY



Jeff Chabot, a native of Manchester, N.H., reads at a Rochester Institute of Technology Mass held Dec. 16 at the Schmitt Interfaith Center.

High-school students, what's your first thought when you get that Sunday morning wake-up call for 8 a.m. Mass?

Do you eagerly race out of bed? Or maybe you dream about that first week away at college: no more nagging by mom and dad to mow the lawn, to be home by a certain hour — or to go to church.

But be forewarned. If you've sometimes felt that attending Mass is a chore, you might end up changing your tune once you settle into campus life.

In fact, college could even be the most stimulating time you've ever had as a Catholic.

Take Anna MacDonald, for example. As a high-school student in Rochester, she stopped going to church after her parents divorced.

"My father always told me I was in a Catholic school, so I should go to church every Sunday," recalled Anna, a graduate of Nazareth Academy. "But it wasn't something I was interested in, and I didn't have a (parish) youth group."

Shortly after Anna began her freshman year at SUNY College at Geneseo this past fall, her roommate invited her to a picnic sponsored by the college's Newman Community. From there, Anna quickly became a regular participant at Sunday Masses and weekday Eucharist services.

"I really enjoy it now. I go more often than my roommate does, actually," Anna laughed.

Erika Merschrod had also ceased attending Sunday Mass while in high school, but she gradually became reinvolved while attending Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania as an undergraduate. Now a graduate student at Cornell University, Erika is a pastoral council member in the Cornell Catholic Community.

"Having something to believe in, some purpose for life" was the driving force behind Erika's return, she said.

"I need that, I guess. Some people don't need it," Erika remarked. "The spirit, the rites, the whole ritual — they're very meaningful to me."

Louis Maione, a Brooklyn native, is yet another college student who had drifted away from his Catholic faith in high school. However, he is now a choir member in the Newman Community at Geneseo.

Louis, a freshman, describes his faith journey as one of the many components in evolving from childhood to adulthood.

"One thing I think I lacked before was conviction with my spirit, and I think I have that now," Louis acknowledged.

"When I used to go to Mass (in high school), it didn't feel as meaningful as it does now. Catholicism was more like pat answers — it wasn't really like a faith. But

## ★ ★ COMING ATTRACTIONS ★ ★

in the Catholic Courier

### MARRIAGE

Publication Date: Feb. 1st  
Advertising Deadline: Jan. 18

The Marriage supplement will provide an overview of Catholic teach on the sacrament of marriage and consider



liturgical aspects of the wedding celebration. Special emphasis will be placed on developing and maintaining a strong marital relationship after the honeymoon is over.

### LENT/SPIRITUALITY

Publication Date: Feb. 15th  
Advertising Deadline: Feb. 1st

As Catholics fast and abstain, this supplement will help them learn more about this holiest of religious seasons



and offer ways to make liturgy more meaningful in their lives. This section will also touch upon the history and development of various spiritual methods and sacramentals.

### PARENTING/FAMILY LIFE

Publication Dates: March 21  
Advertising Deadline: March 7

Expanding on its monthly feature with the same name, the Courier will publish this section to offer a more in-



depth look at raising Catholic children in the 1990s. This section will feature the church's teaching on such topics as discipline, faith development and education.

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